

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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S-E-C-R-E-T

COUNTRY	Rumania	REPORT	
SUBJECT	Popular Discontent in Rumania	DATE DISTR.	11 March 1955
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SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

1. The Rumanian population is convinced that the price of consumer goods will rise in the near future. It is expected that a kilogram of bread will be four lei, and a kilogram of sugar will be 18 lei on the free market. Cloth which was formerly sold in a width of 75 centimeters is now being sold for the same price in a width of 50 centimeters. Other devices are also being used by the regime to hide from the people the fact that prices have already increased. 25X1

2. White collar workers are being laid off in increasing numbers. A system of fines recently has been introduced and is closely followed by dismissal of the offender. In one enterprise in Bucharest, a white collar worker was fined 120 lei for being 20 minutes late for work, and in six other cases white collar workers were dismissed. There are rumors that higher wages will soon be paid, and that this will be achieved by the firing of personnel.

3. The resolution setting up new trade schools is a cause for great discontent among Rumanians with children of school age. Any child of high school age, from 14 years and older, who does not obtain a passing grade is being immediately dismissed and is not permitted to finish the school year. Once dismissed, a child can only enter one of the new trade schools, and cannot enter an ordinary school. This applies to both boys and girls but conditions are made harder for boys. In the trade schools, the children are prepared for factory work. The parents, many of whom have other plans for their children's careers, are very resentful of this treatment. Many children have already been dismissed from their schools, and for lack of any other alternative, have had to enter the trade schools.

4. The population of Bucharest was pleased with the spirit shown by the "invaders" [redacted] Some Rumanians seemed amused by the news and indicated that they expected the Rumanian papers to make the inevitable accusations against "the Americans and other imperialists." [redacted] 25X1

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